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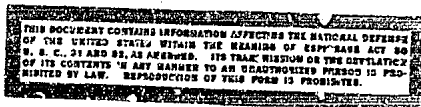
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND SHORTCOMINGS  
IN CHINESE AGRICULTURE

During late 1951 and early 1952, 23,397,000 catties of rice and 19.9 billion yuan in cash have been released by the government for the aid of the peasants in the old Communist bases in the Ning-tu Kiangsi, Special Administrative District alone. The grain and cash were allocated for direct famine relief, social service, and equipment and fertilizer funds. Having received this generous aid, the peasants are in keen competition to increase agricultural production in 1952. An over-all production increase of from 800 million to one billion catties of foodstuffs is planned for the year. Mutual aid teams have enrolled 133,766 members in the area.

Ch'u cadres in Chien-tuo Hsien, Hopeh, subjectively set 1952 agricultural production increase goals of 37.1 percent over 1951. However, they failed to give the people any opportunity to discuss the goals and the result is great confusion and lack of enthusiasm on the part of the masses.

RELIEF FUNDS AID FARMERS IN OLD COMMUNIST BASES -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 9 Jun 52

Relief and loan funds and supplies released by the government to peasants in the old Communist bases of Ning-tu Special Administrative District in Kiangsi in 1951-52 have been of great aid to them in their efforts to restore and increase agricultural production in the area. During 1951, 10,040,000 catties of rice and 4,160,000,000 yuan in cash relief were issued in the area, as well as 4,050,000,000 yuan and 6,697,000 catties of rice in social service funds. During the period of spring scarcity in 1952, 5,860,000 catties of rice and 11,737,800,000 yuan in loans for implements, irrigation, and animals were issued.

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With the loans, farmers in Hsing-kuo Hsien bought 493 head of work cattle, 969 plows, 120 pumps and 2,787 other implements, and 100,000 catties of fertilizer. Irrigation repairs have been made in 1,078 places. The farmers are in keen competition to increase production throughout the 2,900,000 mou of cultivated land of the Special Administrative District. Preparing the soil by three plowings and four harrowings is quite common in 1952. In Jui-chin Hsien, from 30 to 80 piculs of fertilizer per mou are being applied to the soil.

The farmers are all busily engaged in antiflood, antidrought, anti-insect, and anticarcuity programs. The greatest threat in the sandy soil of Hing-tu Special Administrative District is drought. Several large-scale irrigation projects have provided for the needs of 36,000 mou. Small-scale irrigation projects scattered throughout the area will prevent drought over a million more mou.

Peasant organizations now include 6,347 year-round and 13,857 seasonal mutual aid teams with 133,766 members altogether. There are 10,861 families enrolled in the drive to produce 1,000 catties of rice per mou on 54,535 mou. In some areas two rice crops a year are being planned. The peasants are aiming at elimination of their food, implement, and fertilizer shortages by their own productive efforts in the future. They plan to increase the crop production of the area 15 percent, or 800 million catties over 1951.

Individual goals may bring the figure close to one billion catties. Farmer Chou Fu-ch'uen holds the provincial high production record for 1951, with 1,365 catties of paddy rice per mou to his credit. A female model worker, Li Yu-hsin has led her mutual aid team in setting a goal of a 20-percent crop increase over 1951 with an average goal of 520 catties per mou. She hopes to organize 19 year-round mutual aid teams in 1952 and to have half the farmers in her hsiang enrolled in mutual aid teams in 1953.

The people of Jui-chin are intense admirers of Chairman Mao. They are making a public shrine of the house he once occupied in Jui-chin when the Communist capital was located there before the great trek to the Northwest. A man by the name of Chiang Tseng-ch'ang, who has, at the risk of his life at times, secreted many articles of furniture originally in that house has brought them out, and they are being reinstalled as before. Before the well which Chairman Mao helped to dig is a sign reading, "When you drink, do not forget the well-digger."

#### CADRE PRODUCTION PLANS FAIL TO GET RESULTS -- Pao-ting, Hopeh Jih-pao, 4 May 52

Cadres in the first ch'u of Chien-kuo Hsien, Hopeh, made the mistake of setting up their own subjective agricultural production goals for 1952. The plans call for a production increase of 37.1 percent over 1951, but the cadres gave the people no opportunity to discuss the goals. Even the cadres and members of the Hsiang party branches did not understand what the ch'u cadres were aiming at. The masses were not psychologically aroused to support the program. Even mutual aid team leaders, who are supposed to represent high-production teams, maintain that they know nothing about the plans except that the ch'u cadres have set goals. They refer all inquirers to the ch'u authorities. Some mutual leaders say they are not aware that their teams have been designated high-production teams and reveal that they have no plans for a production increase.

Of 60 families that have enrolled as high-production families, the majority say they have no hope of meeting the goals reportedly set, but believe it a good thing to sign up. There have been no discussions among them to arouse their enthusiasm. Their conformity is purely formal. They say all farmers favor higher production as a matter of course. Such statements indicate serious complacency with present production.

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The ch'u cadres decided on a goal of 20 brick curbed wells and 300 uncurbed wells, but the people have not been aroused to a realization of the importance of wells in agricultural production. So far only 80-odd wells have been dug and their locations are for the most part unsuitable for the greatest efficiency in irrigation.

The formalistic approach of the ch'u cadres to this problem of increased production has brought about a serious setback to increased production possibilities for the area and should be immediately and carefully looked into by the higher authorities.

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